

Natural Resources, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Committee

I am writing in opposition to House Bill 4746 presently before your committee. This bill would remove control from our local governments, our townships, and this would not be in the best interest of the citizens of the State of Michigan. The regulations and permitting processes currently in place are to protect the citizenry from abuse and exploitation of our natural resources.

In Ironwood Township, Gogebic County Michigan we have experienced firsthand our local government, Ironwood Township, protecting a neighborhood where a local contractor attempted to turn a 17-acre farm into a gravel processing and crushing operation within 300 feet of a few residences and within one-half mile of 20-30 residences. For decades many property owners invested in the land, improved the property, paid property taxes, and were responsible citizens living the American dream. (The elderly lady next to this location is a third-generation landowner at this site who is, like all neighbors, against this pit)

This proposed business was not compatible with the neighborhood and the general public's health, safety, and welfare due to dust, noise, traffic, pollution and the Township agreed there was no need in the Township in this inappropriate location with over 17 sand/gravel pits currently operating.

Please keep this important control at the local level.

Respectfully submitted,
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